

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

November 1, 2006 MINUTES
Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present: Joe DeVito (chair), Richard Dyer, Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Peter Harrington, Joanne Kazarian, Officer Jim O'Loughlin, Robert Staulo. Students: Brandon Harris, Sarah Laski, Kira Mascho, Katie Sanders

Regrets: Anthony Bibbo, Kipaya Kapiga, Lisa Langone, Terance Sack, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephen Ross.

Staff: Beverly Droz, Director Human and Volunteer Services

Guests: Stephanie Fong

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Introductions were made around the table and student Stephanie Fong and her father were welcomed.

Minutes of the October 4, 2006 meeting were accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Bev reported that the custodian bill has not yet come in from the buildings Department, but she expects it will be about \$600.

The balance in the YC revolving account is \$224.12 which includes the \$209.12 from the 9/28/06 NSHS Bake Sale. She noted following last year's expenses which ran over budget, some expenses were deducted from the Revolving account leaving a balance of \$15 for the start of FY2007.

Bev and staff have been selling leftover water bottles and have \$20.50 to deposit to date. Brendon said the proceeds of the Autumn Invasion raffle and water bottles for a total of \$72 which Bev will now deposit. These funds will go in the revolving account.

Autumn Invasion

Joe thanked Sarah Laski and Brandon Harris, co-chairs of this annual event. Brandon was disappointed in the turn-out, but the students did publicize it throughout the high schools, and Bev had run a calendar announcement in the TAB. Feedback from teens was that it went well and all who attended enjoyed the event. They're putting an article in the Newtonite to follow up. Brandon was on NewTV because they showed up to cover the event. The weather held out. There were a large number of other events around the City. There were 4 bands and the Newtones performing for this year's Autumn Invasion.

Other Business:

Internet Safety

Donna reported that on 11/13/06, an Internet Safety Program was held at NSHS at 7pm in the auditorium. Joe is reaching out to middle schools and PTSO's and will report back. The Youth Commission's goal is to have a spring program on this.

Drinking & Drugs Booklet:

Bev reported that her assistant Denise Joseph is coordinating the booklet and has met with various resource people for input, including Lisa Langone and Matt Green of the Youth Commission as well as other professionals. We will be working with INTERFACE at the Public Schools and the goal is to have a draft copy for the Commission's review at the December meeting.

Suggested outline and content based on the previous "Drinking and Drugs" booklet:

- Page 1: Mayor's Message
- Page 2: Family Guidelines/Communicating with your teen:
- Page 3-6: Hosting and Attending Social Activities:
(Based on original booklet but with updated language and issues.)
- Page 7: Legal Implications
(Based on original booklet but with updated language and issues.)
- Page 8: SADD Contract:
(Based on original booklet but with updated information and language)
- Page 9: Dictionary of Terms for Drugs: Awareness of pills. (New topic)
- Page 10: Dangers of Driving (New topic)
- Page 11: Peer Pressure:(New topic)
- Page 12: Website References(New topic)
- Page 13: Phone numbers: (Based on original booklet but with updated information.)

Richard said it would be good to include collateral consequences. Officer O'Loughlin described many incidents that would cause teens to experience harmful consequences. Katie said there had been a program at NSHS about Drinking and Drugs by Cathy Daviau. It might be good to include anecdotal quotes from students in the booklet.

FCD Seminars:

We'll again plan the Freedom from Chemical Dependency seminars for each high school in the late winter/early spring.

Fundraising:

Katie and Kira said they'd sell water bottles at the Internet Safety program. There are parents' conferences at NSHS Dec 5 & 12 (12:30-5:30) and Sports Awards night is Nov. 29. Brandon will check dates at NNHS.

Youth Foundation Subcommittee:

Joe reported the Articles of Organization were submitted to the City's Legal Department. They will look at them to be sure there are no conflicts and be back in touch with Joe.

Calendar:

Peter suggested making a calendar of events for 2007 when we meet in December.

Meeting was ajourned at 8:45pm.

The next meeting will be on December 6 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria.